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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/222,073 12/29/98 SCHALK

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WM02/1205

EXAMINER

AZAD, A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2641

DATE MAILED:

12/05/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/222,073

Applicant(s)

SCHALK ET AL.

Examiner

ABUL K. AZAD

Art Unit

2641

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This action is in response to the communication filed on September 21, 2000.
2. Claims 1-25 are pending in this action. Claim 1 has been amended.
3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Goldberg (US 6,122,612), newly cited.

As per claim 1, Goldberg teaches, "a method of recognizing a spoken digit string," comprising:

"(a) receiving the spoken digit string" (col. 2, lines 45-65)

"(b) analyzing the spoken digit string to generate a list of hypothesized digit strings arranged in ranked order based on a likelihood of matching the spoken digit string" (col. 5, lines 4-18)

“(c) determining whether individual hypothesized strings of said list satisfy a given constraint, using a given knowledge based recognition strategy” (col. 5, lines 4-18)

“(d) selecting the first string in the list satisfying the constraint as the recognized string” (col. 5, lines 4-18).

As per claim 2, Goldberg teaches, “said knowledge based recognition strategy comprises a database matching scheme” (col. 5, lines 4-18).

As per claim 3, Goldberg teaches, “wherein step (c) comprises searching a database of valid data strings to determine whether any of the hypothesized digit strings match one of the valid digit strings” (col. 5, lines 4-18).

As per claim 4, Goldberg teaches, “wherein the knowledge based recognition strategy is a checksum scheme” (col. 5, lines 4-18).

As per claim 5, Goldberg teaches, “wherein the spoken digit string includes a checksum digit, and wherein step (c) comprises calculating a checksum of the hypothesized digit strings and determining whether the checksum matches the value of the checksum digit” (col. 5, lines 19-35).

As per claim 6, Goldberg teaches, “if non of the hypothesized digit strings satisfies the constraint:

(e) generating an additional hypothesized digit string based on information gathered from the hypothesized digit strings in the list;

(f) analyzing the additional hypothesized digit string to determine if the checksum scheme is satisfied;

(g) if so, validating the additional hypothesized digit string" (col. 6, lines 12-51).

As per claim 7, "wherein the checksum scheme utilizes a Luhan Checksum algorithm" (it is a design choice to use Luhan Checksum algorithm).

As per claim 8, Goldberg teaches, "(e) if none of the hypothesized strings satisfy said constraint, using a supplemental matching technique to select the hypothesized digit string that most closely satisfies the constraint" (col. 3, lines 1-16).

As per claim 9, Goldberg teaches, "wherein the supplemental matching technique is a fuzzy matching scheme" (col. 3, lines 1-16).

As per claim 10, Goldberg teaches, "wherein the fuzzy matching scheme determines the number of corrections needed to match each hypothesized digit string with one of a set of valid digit strings" (col. 3, lines 1-16).

As per claim 11, Goldberg teaches, "wherein the corrections comprise digit substitutions, deletions and additions" (col. 3, lines 1-16).

As per claim 12, Goldberg teaches, "wherein the corrections are weighted" (col. 10, lines 45-61).

As per claim 13, Goldberg teaches, "wherein the knowledge based recognition strategy is a digit positional strategy and the constraining is a given digit position" (col. 5, lines 36-59).

As per claim 14, Goldberg teaches, "wherein the knowledge based recognition strategy is a digit string length strategy and the constraint is a given digit string length" (col. 5, lines 36-59).

As per claim 15, Goldberg teaches, "if none of the hypothesized digit strings satisfy the constraint:

(e) prompting entry of a second spoken digit string" (col. 5, line 61 to col. 6, line 11)

steps (f), (g) and (h) has similar limitation as claim 1, so that they are rejected for same reasons.

Claim 16 has similar limitations as claim 15, so claim 16 also rejected for same reasons.

As per claim 17, Goldberg teaches, "further comprising repeating the recited steps if non of the hypothesized strings match the constraint" (col. 5, line 61 to col. 6, line 11).

As per claim 18, it has similar limitations as claim 15, so that claim 18 also rejected for similar reasons.

As per claims 19-24, they have similar limitations as claims 1-8, and 13-18, so claims 19-24 are also rejected for same reasons.

As per claim 25, it has similar limitations as claim 1, so that claim 25 is also rejected for same reasons.

Conclusion

6. As of October 2, 2000 the former Technology Center 2700 has been split into two centers (TC 2100 and TC 2600), and former Art Unit 2741 has been designated as **Art Unit 2641**, which new AU number should be used in all future correspondence.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Abul K. Azad** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-3838**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **David R. Hudspeth**, can be reached at **(703) 308-4825**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 305-9508


(For informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is **(703) 305-3900**.

Abul K. Azad

November 26, 2000


DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600